



# BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT

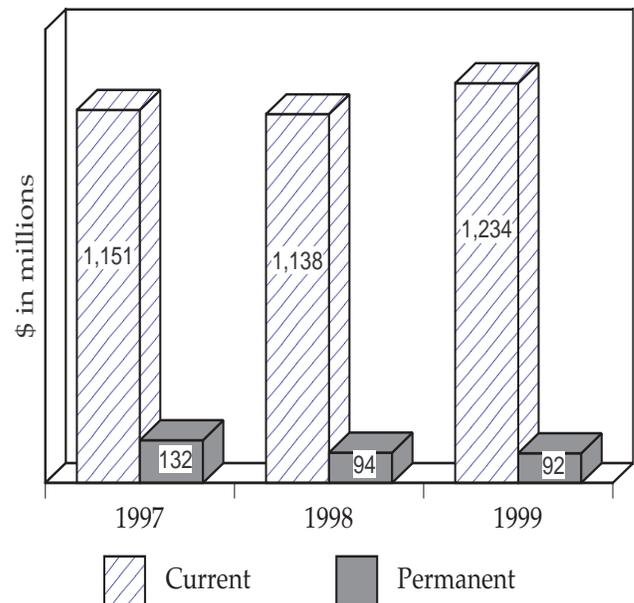
**Mission** - The General Land Office was established in 1812, as part of the Treasury Department, to handle sale of the public domain. Transferred to the Department of the Interior in 1849, the General Land Office continued this mission well into the 20th Century. The Land Office was merged with the Department's Grazing Service in 1946 to form the Bureau of Land Management. Today, the Bureau is charged with sustaining the health, diversity, and productivity of the public lands for the use and enjoyment of present and future generations.

**Program Overview** - The BLM manages over 264 million acres - or about one-eighth of the U.S. land mass - and more than 300 million acres of subsurface estate. Altogether, the BLM public lands represent 41 percent of land managed by the Federal government, and provide economic, recreational, and other benefits to all Americans. This wealth of natural resources and recreational opportunities faces greatly expanded use given population growth in the western United States.

BLM's customers are as varied as the diverse natural resources it manages. The public lands offer recreational opportunities, for instance, that are nationally significant and unique in their diversity, quantity, and quality. The public lands will support an estimated 74 million visitor days in 1999, including more than 8 million days hunting, 3 million days pursuing wildlife-related activities such as bird watching and photography, and more than 7 million angler days spent on BLM waters. The Bureau continues to experience new growth in its recreation program from the creation in 1996 of the Grand Staircase-Escalante National Monument in Utah. The BLM's base programs also provide services to commercial users of public lands, including the mineral industry; utility companies that wish to use land for transformer stations, communication sites, and other rights-of-way; ranchers; the timber industry; persons or groups interested in conservation or resource protection; and research scientists.

**Budget Overview** - The 1999 Bureau of Land Management current request totals \$1.2 billion, an increase of \$95.8 million above the 1998 enacted level. Of that total, \$16.5 million is dedicated to uncontrollable expenses and

## BLM Funding



\$28.1 million to changes in operating programs. Another \$33.3 million change in the Bureau's main operating account reflects the Department's request to extend funding for the administration of mining law. BLM administers several accounts that fund multi-bureau functions: for wildland fire management, an increase of \$18.2 million is requested, bringing that program to \$298.4 million; funding for Payments in Lieu of Taxes is maintained at the 1998 enacted level of \$120.0 million; and a reduction of \$2.0 million is requested in the Central Hazmat Fund. BLM's budget includes \$15.0 million for land acquisition and \$4.2 million for construction projects, for a combined \$4.7 million above the 1998 level.

The budget for BLM also contains a proposal to permanently extend collection of the fees that allow hardrock mining operators to maintain their claims to mine on public lands. These fees are now used to offset BLM's costs of managing the mining program, but require extension by law into 1999 and beyond. The proposal requires a direct appropriation of the \$33.3 million that 1999

---

program operations are expected to cost. BLM will then continue to collect maintenance and location fees, raised to a level that reflects inflation since those fees were established in 1993. These collections are expected to rise to \$38.8 million (and further still in outyears), and will be available to pay program costs in 2000. However, from a budget scoring point of view, they offset the mining law administration appropriation for 1999.

During this Administration, the Bureau has made considerable progress in dedicating more resources to the field and reaching out to all parties with a stake in management of the public lands. The budget request for BLM reflects an effort to keep that progress on track. BLM's projects tie directly to the Administration's priority on protecting the environment, whether by maintaining the health of the land, serving the management needs of the Columbia River basin area, or providing access to and maintenance of sites and facilities under the Bureau's stewardship.

**Interior Columbia River Basin** - When President Clinton initiated the management changes that formed the Northwest Forest Plan, he also called for development of a "scientifically sound and ecosystem-based strategy for management of the east side forests." From that call has grown the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Plan. In 1997, the U.S. Forest Service and the BLM released two parallel, draft environmental impact statements and preferred management alternatives for public land within the 144 million acre project area. Together with other Federal, state, and local partners, the BLM and U.S. Forest Service have drafted a management blueprint to restore long-term ecological integrity in the seven-State area. To date, the Plan has been subject to extensive public input, and it will be further refined as the comment period continues in 1998. In final form, the Plan will guide land management actions in 1999 and beyond.

The BLM request includes \$6.8 million for projects in the Plan area that will restore forest health conditions, combat invasive plant species, improve fish and wildlife habitat, and restore riparian areas through a combination of mechanical, chemical, and biological treatments, and through the use of prescribed fire. All management alternatives still under consideration (including the preferred alternative) assume increases for such projects to improve the health of the land.

The proposal is in part funded by a transfer of \$3.0 million from funding for Jobs-in-the-Woods projects that will have reached completion at the close of 1998. Based on the Jobs-in-the-Woods model of support for timber-dependent communities, this funding will be directed specifically at local community involvement through con-

tract work that focuses on ecosystem restoration.

**Rangeland Health** - Efforts to improve rangeland health will again be highlighted by the BLM in 1999. From the resource advisory councils have now grown locally developed standards and guidelines on multiple uses of rangeland. In 1999, emphasis will shift from development to implementation of these standards and guidelines, identification of resources at risk, and taking appropriate management actions. On a parallel track, the Bureau will increase efforts with its partners in integrated weed management. An additional 7,000 acres of knapweed, rush skeletonweed, leafy spurge, and other invasive species will be treated. The budget requests a combined, additional \$3.5 million for these range improvement efforts. The Bureau also plans to continue improvements in its wild horse and burro program, building on advances planned for 1998. These wild herds diminish resource values wherever they roam. With a \$2.8 million increase, BLM plans to focus on removing an additional 3,650 animals from the public rangelands, and greatly increasing adoption compliance efforts, as called for in recent management reviews. The 1999 budget for BLM also includes a request for \$450,000 for planning and operations at the Headwaters Forest. Following the acquisition of the forest and buffer areas as part of the 1998 appropriations process, BLM will need to develop a management plan, develop and implement a forest restoration plan, develop a fire management plan, and engage in public outreach regarding the uses of this newly public property.

**Clean Water and Watershed Restoration Initiative** - The Bureau of Land Management request includes a program change of \$16.0 million for watershed health projects on western public lands. The centerpiece of the initiative is an additional \$6.0 million investment in the cleanup of abandoned hardrock mine sites. These sites can be a major source of water quality degradation and environmental pollution. Acid mine drainage, elevated metals concentrations, and increased sedimentation typify the impacts to water resources from some abandoned mine sites. In 1999, ongoing mine site cleanup partnerships will be strengthened in Colorado and Montana, and these efforts will be expanded to Utah, Idaho, and the Dakotas. With another \$3.6 million in program changes, riparian areas will also receive special attention under BLM's management of the Clean Water and Watershed Restoration Initiative. Assessments of proper functioning condition will be completed for riparian areas in all of the western States in the "lower 48;" and in Arizona and New Mexico, BLM will enhance an additional 300 miles of riparian corridor by isolating wildlife and livestock access to water resources. BLM also plans to reactivate surface water monitoring stations in several states; to

---

reduce sediment loads in salmonid fisheries in western Oregon; to install water quality improvement structures in California rivers; and to conduct water quality inventory, monitoring, and analysis in Nevada and Colorado.

**Facilities Restoration** - BLM sites and facilities - - like those of its land managing partners - - face an ever-growing demand. The Nation's public lands, once a little known secret, are fast becoming the destination of choice for many outdoor enthusiasts. As recreational and commercial consumers have made greater use of the public lands, the Bureau's backlog of maintenance and operational needs has grown. These needs are reflected in degraded roofs, walkways, and sewage systems at BLM facilities, as well at sites designed for recreation or commercial uses that may pose hazards to BLM's customers. To meet these needs, the 1999 budget supports a multi-agency Administration request to address critical health and safety concerns and other high-priority maintenance and construction projects. Construction funding of \$4.2 million and an additional \$7.7 million for facilities maintenance are requested to support this initiative.

**Automation and Data Analysis** - The Bureau requests an additional \$1.6 million for Release 2 of the Automated Land and Mineral Record System in 1999, and an additional \$2.2 million for enhancements to the Geographic Coordinate Database. In 1998, BLM expects to implement the first release of ALMRS, thereby permitting public land users to electronically process information regarding lands, onshore minerals, and their uses. In 1999, the Bureau will continue with its efforts to render the ALMRS system into one that can completely replace conventional Master Title Plats through the Release 2 geospatial component. Release 2 improvements will also greatly enhance the system's access and security, oil and gas program support, and query and report functionality. Underlying ALMRS, the GCDB system provides a spatial infrastructure on which not only the land and mineral record system, but all the bureau's cartographic functions are based. The \$2.2 million increase sought for GCDB will keep the BLM on target to meet its performance objectives as part of the Interagency National Spatial Data Infrastructure.

**Forest Plan** - The 1999 budget continues to support implementation of the President's Forest Plan by providing steady funding for a sustainable, environmentally sound timber strategy. In support of the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project, the budget proposes that \$3.0 million be transferred from Jobs-in-the-Woods projects that will have reached completion at the close of 1998. With that reduction, BLM's Forest Plan request totals \$40.7 million. The budget provides for continuation of the Bureau's commitment to a sustain-

able timber harvest of 213.5 mmbf annually. Also as called for in the original Plan timetable, the budget assumes a shift of emphasis away from now completed watershed analysis and toward special status species surveys and management and Forest Plan monitoring.

**Payments in Lieu of Taxes** - The BLM administers the Payments in Lieu of Taxes program, which compensates units of local government for losses to their real property tax base when Federal lands fall within their boundaries. Payments received under the program may be used for any governmental purpose, such as police and fire protection, school busing, or road maintenance. Rural states with large Federal land holdings receive substantial benefits through PILT payments. In 1997, for example, units of local government in Michigan received \$1.2 million, while California received \$11.1 million, and Nevada \$6.8 million. The budget request of \$120.0 million is level with the 1998 enacted funding. Of that amount, less than \$0.4 million will be spent administering the program.

**Wildland Fire Management** - The Department of the Interior requests \$298.4 million in 1999 for the wildland fire management program, an increase of \$18.2 million over the 1998 enacted level. This appropriation provides funding for the Department's wildland fire management activities - including suppression of fires, rehabilitation of burned lands, program management, fire use, and the range of activities that constitute effective preparation for fire. The program is guided by the principles of the Federal Wildland Fire Management Policy and Program Review, adopted by the Secretaries of the Interior and Agriculture in December, 1995. Under the new Federal policy, more frequent and lower intensity fires are being managed to prevent heavy buildup of fuels and, in turn, the likelihood of costly, catastrophic fires. The two Departments have now begun a program of intensive prescribed fire use and mechanical removal to combat generations of vegetative fuel buildup. Interior agencies expect to treat approximately 700,000 acres under this program in 1998. In 1999, depending on weather and other fire prescription conditions, more than \$19.0 million are planned to be spent on fuels management treatments covering more 900,000 acres of land managed by the Department of the Interior.

**Central HAZMAT Fund** - The BLM administers this Department-wide program, which provides for remedial action and cleanup activities of hazardous waste substances, pollutants, or contaminants in accordance with the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act. The Department faces many demands regarding the cleanup of hazardous substance releases on its lands and facilities. The Department's bureaus work together to reach consensus with respect to

---

the setting of funding priorities for the contaminated sites that are ready for remediation. The Department also pursues cost recovery from parties who are responsible for contaminating its lands. The BLM has budgeted \$10.0 million to remediate the highest priority contaminated sites in 1999.

**Revenue Sharing** - The public lands produce over \$1.2 billion annually from oil, gas, coal, and geothermal rents, royalties, and bonuses; as well as an additional \$400

million from grazing, timber, land sale, and other fees for a total of about \$1.6 billion. About 19,000 oil and gas leases are in production status which generate more than \$600 million in royalties, with 50 percent returned to the States. Major oil and gas producing States include California, Colorado, New Mexico, and Wyoming. Production from Federal coal leases amounts to more than 245 million tons which generates about \$300 million in Federal royalties; 50 percent of this is returned to the States. Major producers include Wyoming and Montana.

**SUMMARY OF BUREAU APPROPRIATIONS**  
(all dollar amounts in thousands)

*Comparison of 1999 Request with 1998 Enacted:*

	1998 Enacted		1999 Request		Change From 1998	
	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount	FTE	Amount
<b>Appropriations</b>						
Management of Lands and Resources .....	6,612	583,270	6,812	660,310	+200	+77,040
Wildland Fire Management .....	1,753	280,103	1,876	298,353	+123	+18,250
Central HAZMAT Fund .....	0	12,000	0	10,000	0	-2,000
Construction and Access .....	16	3,254	16	4,175	0	+921
Payments in Lieu of Taxes .....	2	120,000	2	120,000	0	0
Land Acquisition .....	35	11,200	35	15,000	0	+3,800
Oregon & California Grant Lands .....	1,046	101,406	1,032	98,966	-14	-2,440
Range Improvements .....	60	9,113	60	10,000	0	+887
Service Charges, Deposits & Forfeitures .....	79	8,706	79	8,055	0	-651
Miscellaneous Trust Funds (Indefinite) .....	79	8,800	79	8,800	0	0
Subtotal, Appropriations .....	9,682	1,137,852	9,991	1,233,659	+309	+95,807
<b>Permanents and Trusts</b>						
Miscellaneous Permanent Appropriations .....	0	76,040	0	74,276	0	-1,764
Ops. & Main of Quarters .....	3	260	3	260	0	0
Recreation Fee Collections .....	8	785	8	900	0	+115
Recreation Fee Demonstration .....	3	2,000	3	2,500	0	+500
Forest Ecosystems Health & Recovery .....	75	8,445	75	8,621	0	+176
Expenses, Road Maintenance Deposits .....	3	1,500	3	1,500	0	0
Timber Sale Pipeline Restoration Fund .....	0	5,010	0	4,083	0	-927
Helium Fund .....	50	27,000	65	18,000	-85	-9,000
Helium Fund - Offsetting Collection .....	0	-27,000	0	-18,000	0	+9,000
Subtotal, Permanents and Trusts .....	242	94,040	157	92,140	-85	-1,900
Seasonal, Reimbursable & Other FTE .....	272	0	272	0	0	0
<b>TOTAL, BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT ....</b>	<b>10,196</b>	<b>1,231,892</b>	<b>10,420</b>	<b>1,325,799</b>	<b>+224</b>	<b>+93,907</b>

**HIGHLIGHTS OF BUDGET CHANGES**  
By Appropriation Activity/Subactivity

**APPROPRIATION: Management of Land and Resources**

	1997 Actual	1998 Enacted	1999 Request	Change from 1998 Enacted
<b>Land Resources</b>				
Soil, Water, & Air Management .....	19,518	22,351	31,031	+8,680
Range Management .....	52,059	54,342	63,102	+8,760
Forestry Management .....	5,510	5,652	6,269	+617
Riparian Management .....	16,018	16,473	20,456	+3,983
Cultural Resources Management .....	12,014	12,722	13,474	+752
Wild Horse & Burro Management .....	15,866	15,866	18,623	+2,757
Subtotal, Land Resources .....	120,985	127,406	152,955	+25,549
<b>Wildlife &amp; Fisheries</b>				
Wildlife Management .....	20,101	21,210	22,582	+1,372
Fisheries Management .....	7,133	7,818	10,566	+2,748
Subtotal, Wildlife & Fisheries .....	27,234	29,028	33,148	+4,120

	<u>1997 Actual</u>	<u>1998 Enacted</u>	<u>1999 Request</u>	<u>Change from 1998 Enacted</u>
Threatened & Endangered Species .....	16,500	16,995	18,338	+1,343
Recreation Management				
Wilderness Management .....	15,072	15,505	15,800	+295
Recreation Resources Management ....	27,772	30,833	31,930	+1,097
Recreation Operations (fees) .....	3,020	2,520	2,568	+48
Subtotal, Recreation Management ..	45,864	48,858	50,298	+1,440
Energy & Minerals				
Oil & Gas .....	2,056	54,570	53,470	-1,100
Coal Management .....	6,853	7,017	7,151	+134
Other Mineral Resources .....	8,584	8,776	8,943	+167
Subtotal, Energy & Minerals .....	67,493	70,363	69,564	-799
Alaska Minerals .....	2,010	2,743	2,082	-661
Realty & Ownership Management				
Alaska Conveyance .....	29,981	30,448	28,650	-1,798
Cadastral Survey .....	11,053	11,236	13,488	+2,252
Land & Realty Management .....	28,622	29,395	30,793	+1,398
Subtotal, Realty & Owner Mgmt ....	69,656	71,079	72,931	+1,852
Resource Protection & Maintenance				
Resource Management Planning .....	6,000	6,292	6,412	+120
Facilities Maintenance .....	32,754	35,097	41,590	+6,493
Resource Protection & Law Enfrmnt ...	10,254	10,566	10,767	+201
Hazardous Materials Management ....	15,076	15,301	15,593	+292
Subtotal, Resource Protection .....	64,084	67,256	74,362	+7,106
Automated Land & Mineral				
Records System .....	42,207	32,961	34,608	+1,647
Mining Law Administration				
Administration .....	27,650	27,650	28,177	+527
Fee Collection .....	5,000	5,000	5,095	+95
Offsetting Fees .....	-32,650	-32,650	0	+32,650
Subtotal, Mining Law Admin .....	0	0	33,272	+33,272
Workforce & Organizational Support				
Information Systems Operations .....	14,630	15,073	15,360	+287
Administrative Support .....	45,335	44,637	45,437	+800
Bureauwide Fixed Costs .....	56,166	56,871	57,955	+1,084
Subtotal, Support .....	116,131	116,581	118,752	+2,171
Communication Site Management				
Communication Site Management .....	2,000	2,000	2,000	0
Offsetting Fees .....	-2,000	-2,000	-2,000	0
Subtotal, Comm Site Mgmt .....	0	0	0	0
Emergency supp; Fire Restoration .....	3,500			
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	575,664	583,270	660,310	+77,040

---

## Highlights of Budget Changes

	<u>Amount</u>
Uncontrollable Cost Net Increase (non-add)	[+11,726]
Land Resources	+25,549
<i>Soil, Water and Air Management:</i> In this subactivity, BLM requests program changes of +\$8,100 and uncontrollable changes of +\$580. Additional funds will be principally directed toward BLM's performance goals to restore and maintain priority watersheds and plant and animal habitats. Water pollution control at additional abandoned hardrock mine sites, projects to help reduce Colorado River salinity, and watershed restoration projects will be accomplished as part of implementing the Vice President's Clean Water and Watershed Restoration initiative. This initiative is a multi-agency effort that addresses the restoration and protection needs of the Nation's waters. Funds will be used for watershed and aquatic habitat restoration in Arizona and New Mexico as part of the Southwest Conservation Strategy. This coordinated watershed restoration strategy will specifically address at-risk and listed species issues. Management and restoration efforts at the Headwaters Forest in California will begin in 1999. BLM will acquire the 7,500-acre Headwaters property in 1998.	
<i>Rangeland Management:</i> In this subactivity, BLM requests program changes of +\$7,580 and uncontrollable changes of +\$1,180. The emphasis of these program changes is to control the spread of noxious weeds; to improve the health of vegetation communities; and to incorporate comprehensive standards for public land health into existing BLM land use plans. Additional funds will be used to inventory areas for the presence of weeds and to accelerate integrated weed control measures. Funds will also be used to implement standards and guidelines for management of the Nation's rangelands, which have been developed locally by Resource Advisory Councils in western public land States.	
<i>Forestry Management:</i> In this subactivity, BLM requests program changes of +\$500 and uncontrollable changes of +\$117. Additional funds will be used to support management of the Headwaters Forest with emphasis on the long-term health and diversity of the ecosystem and to support implementation of the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Plan.	
<i>Riparian Management:</i> In this subactivity, BLM requests program changes of +\$3,600 and uncontrollable changes of +\$383. Implementation of the Clean Water and Watershed Restoration initiative will provide for more riparian area condition assessments and additional improvements to riparian and aquatic habitats. Progress will be made toward the goal to restore priority riparian resources to proper functioning conditions by improving more riparian streams.	
<i>Wild Horse and Burro Management:</i> In this subactivity, BLM requests program changes of +\$2,409 and uncontrollable changes of +\$348 million. More animals will be removed from the public rangelands in the continuing effort to improve the condition of the public rangelands and the health and condition of wild horses by reducing populations. Additional funding will also support the goal of improving management of this Congressionally and Administratively recognized natural and cultural heritage resource by increasing adoptions of animals removed from the rangelands, increasing compliance checks on adopted but untitled animals, and improving veterinary care of animals in BLM facilities.	

	<u>Amount</u>
<p>Wildlife and Fisheries</p> <p>In this activity, BLM requests program changes of +\$3,500 and uncontrollable changes of +\$620. Additional resources will benefit terrestrial and aquatic wildlife and fish habitat and improve water quality by implementing the Southwest Conservation Strategy and the Clean Water and Watershed Restoration initiative. Emphasis in the Southwest is aimed at an aggressive multi-agency effort to protect at-risk species and promote recovery actions for listed and declining species by improving the condition of critical watershed and upland areas. Water quality and the condition of rivers and streams throughout the West will be improved through development of fisheries and stream improvement projects.</p>	+4,120
<p>Threatened and Endangered Species</p> <p>In this activity, BLM requests program changes of +\$1,000 and uncontrollable changes of +\$343. A coordinated multi-species, multi-agency management plan for the Headwaters Forest will be developed in 1999. The program will also support the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project.</p>	+1,343
<p>Recreation Management</p> <p>In this activity, BLM requests program changes of +\$500 and uncontrollable changes of +\$940. Priority will be placed on providing opportunities for environmentally-responsible recreation on public lands with emphasis on managing outdoor recreation opportunities to achieve and maintain public land health standards. Additional reliance on challenge cost share partnerships and developing new recreation fee demonstration pilot projects will help meet these goals.</p>	+1,440
<p>Energy and Minerals (including Alaska Minerals)</p> <p>In this activity, BLM requests program changes of -\$2,800 and uncontrollable changes of +\$1,340. The program decrease reflects funding appropriated in 1998 for development of an environmental impact statement related to development of the National Petroleum Reserve-Alaska and to support the Alaska Resources Library. These funding amounts are not required in 1999.</p>	-1,460
<p>Realty and Ownership Management</p> <p><i>Alaska Conveyances:</i> In this subactivity, BLM requests program changes of -\$2,334 and uncontrollable changes of +\$536. BLM will focus on the highest priority land conveyances in 1999.</p> <p><i>Cadastral Survey:</i> In this subactivity, BLM requests program changes of +\$2,000 and uncontrollable changes of +\$252. The additional funding will be used to collect and import Geographic Coordinate Data Base information in support of the Automated Land and Minerals Record System. GCDB data is critical to the mapping capabilities of ALMRS, and of the Bureau's cartographic needs generally. More emphasis on this program in 1999 will keep BLM on target in meeting the performance goal of ensuring that spatial, cadastral, and records data information are collected and maintained to standard.</p> <p><i>Land and Realty Management:</i> In this subactivity, BLM requests program changes of +\$822 and uncontrollable changes of +\$576. Additional funds in 1999 will allow for more efficient processing of rights-of-way and to process additional cases. BLM will also review more lands currently under Bureau of Reclamation withdrawals and, where appropriate, make available more lands for multiple-use. The 1999 program will directly support performance goals to contribute to the Nation's economy by providing opportunities for the production and transport of goods and services and to improve customer service to commercial users.</p>	+1,852

Resource Protection and Maintenance Amount  
+7,106

In this activity, BLM requests program changes of +\$5,715 and uncontrollable changes of +\$1,391. The program increase will provide additional capability to address priority maintenance, rehabilitation and construction needs on the public lands. BLM has a significant backlog of facility maintenance needs. Additional funds will be used for maintenance and rehabilitation of recreation facilities, roads, bridges and trails. Emphasis on projects addressing public health and safety and environmental protection will support BLM's performance goals to protect the public's economic investment in BLM facilities; manage outdoor recreation activities to achieve and maintain public land health standards; and to reduce threats to public and employee health and safety and the environment by maintaining public lands and facilities in a safe condition.

Automated Land and Mineral Record System (ALMRS) +1,647

In this subactivity, BLM requests program changes of +\$1,000 and uncontrollable changes of +\$647. Release I of the ALMRS project is scheduled for completion in 1998 and will make electronic data and land and minerals case processing capability available within BLM and to public land users. Additional funding will provide for continued development and deployment of Release II of ALMRS in 1999. This will provide users within the government as well as the public, industry and state and local governments with land title information in a graphic format that is easily accessible and usable. Over 47 million land title records will be made electronically available to BLM customers via the Internet or other electronic means with ALMRS. The successful implementation of the ALMRS project is a key performance goal of the BLM to provide a more efficient means to use land information through automation.

Mining Law Administration +33,272

The 1999 budget proposes permanent continuation of mining claim maintenance and location fees to be adjusted annually for inflation. Current legislation authorizing the fees expires in 1998. The legislative proposal included with the budget will permanently fund administration of the 1872 Mining Law from prior year receipts in future years. Mining law administration and fee collection administration will be funded through a direct appropriation of \$33,272 million in 1999.

Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project [+6,795]

Implementation of the Interior Columbia Basin Ecosystem Management Project will begin in 1999. The project plan has been subject to extensive public input over nearly 5 years, and will be further refined as the comment period on the draft environmental impact statements continues in 1998. Funding in support of project implementation [+6,795] is distributed through several subactivities in the MLR account. Basin-wide objectives identified as part of scientific and environmental studies and public input include forest and rangeland health, reaching appropriate anadromous fish population levels, threatened and endangered species recovery, and a sustainable, environmentally sound supply of natural resource products. Additional funds in 1999 will be used to begin to address these objectives through watershed analyses and sub-basin reviews, integrated invasive weed management, restoration of riparian, fish and wildlife habitat, forest health practices, addressing tribal issues, and correcting drainage from roads and culverts to improve water quality. All plan management options still under consideration (including the preferred alternative) require funding increases for such projects. Moreover, meeting the project objectives is consistent with established performance goals to restore and maintain riparian areas and priority watersheds; restore priority plant and animal habitats; emphasize the control of noxious weeds and improve the health of vegetation communities; and to contribute to the nation's economy by providing opportunities for the production and transport of commercial goods and services.

**APPROPRIATION: Wildland Fire Management**

	<u>1997 Actual</u>	<u>1998 Enacted</u>	<u>1999 Request</u>	<u>Change from 1998 Enacted</u>
Wildland Fire Preparedness .....	144,275	154,103	158,003	+3,900
Wildland Fire Operations .....	107,767	126,000	140,350	+14,350
Release of Emergency Funds .....	50,000	0	0	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	302,042	280,103	298,353	+18,250
Emergency Funds (unreleased / non-add)		[+50,000]		

**Highlights of Budget Changes**

Uncontrollable Cost Net Increase	<u>Amount</u> [+3,108]
Wildland Fire Management	+18,250
<p>Increased funds will be directed principally to performance goals for additional use of prescribed fire and other treatments to reduce hazardous fuels buildup and to improve ecosystem health and to emphasize firefighter and public safety. Part of the increase will also be used to revise fire management plans and to keep better pace with average annual costs of emergency suppression and rehabilitation.</p>	

**APPROPRIATION: Central Hazardous Materials Fund**

	<u>1997 Actual</u>	<u>1998 Enacted</u>	<u>1999 Request</u>	<u>Change from 1998 Enacted</u>
Bureau of Land Management				
1998/1999 Amounts Unallocated .....	710	12,000	10,000	-2,000
Fish and Wildlife Service .....	9,080			
National Park Service .....	2,210			
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	12,000	12,000	10,000	-2,000

**Highlights of Budget Changes**

Reordering Remediation Priorities	<u>Amount</u> -2,000
<p>The Central Hazardous Materials Fund is a Department-wide program that provides funding on a prioritized basis to its land managing agencies. The budget reflects a reduction of \$2.0 million, to be accomplished by reordering remediation priorities and project work schedules.</p>	

**APPROPRIATION: Construction and Access**

	<u>1997 Actual</u>	<u>1998 Enacted</u>	<u>1999 Request</u>	<u>Change from 1998 Enacted</u>
Construction .....	4,333	3,254	4,175	+921
Emergency Supplemental .....	4,796	0	0	0
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	9,129	3,254	4,175	+921

**APPROPRIATION: Payments in Lieu of Taxes**

	<u>1997 Actual</u>	<u>1998 Enacted</u>	<u>1999 Request</u>	<u>Change from 1998 Enacted</u>
Payments to Local Governments (PILT)	113,500	120,000	120,000	0

**APPROPRIATION: Land Acquisition**

	<u>1997 Actual</u>	<u>1998 Enacted</u>	<u>1999 Request</u>	<u>Change from 1998 Enacted</u>
Acquisitions .....	7,910	7,450	11,231	+3,781
Emergencies and Hardships .....	0	750	750	0
Acquisition Management .....	2,500	3,000	3,019	+19
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	10,410	11,200	15,000	+3,800

**APPROPRIATION: Oregon and California Grant Lands**

	<u>1997 Actual</u>	<u>1998 Enacted</u>	<u>1999 Request</u>	<u>Change from 1998 Enacted</u>
W. Oregon Resources Management .....	80,348	81,078	80,356	-722
Supplemental; Fire Restoration .....	2,500	0	0	0
W. Oregon Info & Resources Data Sys ...	2,148	2,180	2,214	+34
W. Oregon Facilities Maintenance .....	9,458	9,354	10,513	+1,159
W. Oregon Construction & Acquisition .	284	288	292	+4
Jobs-In-The-Woods .....	8,277	8,506	5,591	-2,915
Transfer of PY Balances (P.L. 105-18) .....	-4,403			
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....</b>	<b>98,612</b>	<b>101,406</b>	<b>98,966</b>	<b>-2,440</b>

**Highlights of Budget Changes**

	<u>Account</u>
Uncontrollable Cost Net Increase	[+1,499]
Western Oregon Facilities Maintenance	+1,159
<p>In this activity, BLM requests program changes of +\$1,000 and uncontrollable changes of +\$159. Additional funds will be used to address the backlog of corrective maintenance needs as part of the Land, Water, and Facilities Restoration Initiative. Emphasis will be directed to the goals of reducing threats to public and employee health and safety and the environment by maintaining facilities in a safe condition and protecting the public's investment in BLM facilities by improving roads, recreation facilities and BLM owned buildings.</p>	
Western Oregon Resources Management	-722
<p>In this activity, BLM requests program changes of -\$1,939 and uncontrollable changes of +\$1,217. Funding will be made available by the completion of the first generation of watershed analyses in 1998 for most lands included in the President's Forest Plan. As a result, emphasis will be redirected to monitoring, survey and management of special status species as outlined and directed by standards and guidelines in the Plan and watershed restoration projects in support of implementing the Clean Water and Watershed Restoration initiative. This change in priority ties to performance goals to restore and maintain priority watersheds and to restore priority plant and animal habitat.</p>	
Jobs in the Woods	-2,915
<p>In this activity, BLM requests program changes of -\$3,000 and uncontrollable changes of +\$85. The reduction will come from projects that have reached completion in 1998. Then \$5,600 will remain available in 1999 to provide economic assistance to local communities in the Forest Plan area.</p>	

**APPROPRIATION: Range Improvements**

	<u>1997 Actual</u>	<u>1998 Enacted</u>	<u>1999 Request</u>	<u>Change from 1998 Enacted</u>
Improvements to Public Lands .....	7,649	7,649	8,536	+887
Farm Tenant Act Lands .....	864	864	864	0
Administrative Expenses .....	600	600	600	0
<b>TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....</b>	<b>9,113</b>	<b>9,113</b>	<b>10,000</b>	<b>+887</b>

**Highlights of Budget Changes**

	<u>Amount</u>
Improvements to Public Lands	+887
<p>Additional funds will be used to emphasize the control of noxious weeds and to restore priority vegetation communities by treating more acres with integrated weed management techniques. arly 4,500 more acres infested with weeds will be treated in 1999.</p>	

---

**APPROPRIATION:Services Charges, Deposits, and Forfeitures**

	<u>1997 Actual</u>	<u>1998 Enacted</u>	<u>1999 Request</u>	<u>Change from 1998 Enacted</u>
Rights-of-Way Processing .....	4,355	4,000	3,849	-151
Adopt-a-Horse Program .....	905	1,250	950	-300
Repair of Damaged Lands .....	1,448	1,300	1,300	0
Cost Recoverable Realty Cases .....	339	416	316	-100
Timber Purchaser Expenses .....	228	240	200	-40
Copy Fees .....	1,790	1,500	1,440	-60
TOTAL APPROPRIATION .....	9,065	8,706	8,055	-651

**APPROPRIATION:Miscellaneous Trust Funds**

	<u>1997 Actual</u>	<u>1998 Enacted</u>	<u>1999 Request</u>	<u>Change from 1998 Enacted</u>
Miscellaneous Trust Funds .....	10,970	8,800	8,800	0